

Appl. No. 09/659,737
Amdt. dated March 8, 2004
Reply to Final Office Action dated Feb. 12, 2004

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1. (Original): An isolated polynucleotide molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding an MLK4 gene product from a human, wherein the MLK4 gene product comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 2. (Original): The isolated polynucleotide sequence of claim 1 comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

Claims 3-21. (Cancelled).

Claim 22. (Currently Amended): A recombinant vector comprising any one of the polynucleotide molecule molecules of claims 1-5 claim 1, 2, 48, 49, 50, 51 or 53.

Claim 23. (Original): A transformed host cell comprising the recombinant vector of claim 22.

Claim 24. (Cancelled).

Claim 25. (Currently Amended): A method of preparing a substantially purified or isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 encoded by the recombinant vector of claim 22, comprising culturing host cells transformed with the recombinant vector under conditions conducive to the expression of the polypeptide, or peptide fragment, and recovering in substantially purified or isolated form the polypeptide or peptide fragment from the cell culture.

Claims 26-47. (Cancelled).

Claim 48. (New): An isolated polynucleotide molecule that comprises a nucleotide sequence that is about 90% homologous to SEQ ID NO:1, wherein the isolated polynucleotide molecule encodes a protein that has a kinase activity of an MLK4 gene product.